

**House File 2272 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 2272

BY MOHR

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act authorizing a voter-approved increase in the regular  
2 program district cost per pupil and including applicability  
3 provisions.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 257.10, subsection 2, paragraph b, Code  
2 2018, is amended to read as follows:

3 b. If the regular program district cost per pupil of a  
4 school district for the budget year under paragraph "a" exceeds  
5 one hundred five percent of the regular program state cost  
6 per pupil for the budget year and the state percent of growth  
7 for the budget year is greater than two percent, the regular  
8 program district cost per pupil for the budget year for that  
9 district shall be reduced to one hundred five percent of the  
10 regular program state cost per pupil for the budget year.  
11 However, under such conditions, if the difference between the  
12 regular program district cost per pupil for the budget year and  
13 the regular program state cost per pupil for the budget year  
14 is greater than an amount equal to two percent multiplied by  
15 the regular program state cost per pupil for the base year, the  
16 regular program district cost per pupil for the budget year  
17 shall be reduced by the amount equal to two percent multiplied  
18 by the regular program state cost per pupil for the base year.

19 Sec. 2. Section 257.10, subsection 2, Code 2018, is amended  
20 by adding the following new paragraph:

21 NEW PARAGRAPH. c. (1) In order to provide regular program  
22 district cost per pupil equity among all school districts in  
23 the state, following approval at election under subparagraph  
24 (2), the regular program district cost per pupil for a district  
25 shall be increased by the amount per pupil approved at election  
26 for a period not to exceed ten budget years, and not to exceed  
27 the amount authorized under subparagraph (3).

28 (2) The board of directors of a school district may, on  
29 its own motion, or shall, upon receipt of a petition signed by  
30 eligible electors equal in number to at least thirty percent of  
31 the number of voters who voted at the last preceding regular  
32 school election, direct the county commissioner of elections  
33 to submit to the registered voters of the school district  
34 the question of whether to increase the school district's  
35 regular program district cost per pupil. The ballot shall

1 specify the amount by which the regular program district cost  
2 per pupil is to be increased, not to exceed the limitation  
3 under subparagraph (3), the budget year for which the increase  
4 will take effect, and the number of years for which the  
5 increase will apply. The question shall be submitted at an  
6 election held on a date specified in section 39.2, subsection  
7 4, paragraph "c". If a majority of the votes cast upon the  
8 proposition is in favor of the proposition, the department of  
9 management shall increase the school district's regular program  
10 district cost per pupil by the amount approved by the voters  
11 for the budget year specified on the ballot. For an increase  
12 to apply to a budget year, the election approving the increase  
13 must occur before the school district's budget for that budget  
14 year is certified under section 24.17. The school district's  
15 regular program district cost per pupil for future budget years  
16 shall be calculated in the manner otherwise provided in this  
17 subsection including any increases made under this paragraph  
18 until expiration of the period of budget years authorized at  
19 election or until the increase is repealed at election under  
20 subparagraph (4).

21 (3) The amount by which a school district's regular program  
22 district cost per pupil may be increased under this paragraph  
23 shall not exceed an amount equal to the difference between the  
24 school district's regular program district cost per pupil for  
25 the budget year specified on the ballot and the highest regular  
26 program district cost per pupil among all school districts in  
27 the state for the same budget year.

28 (4) An increase in a school district's regular program  
29 district cost per pupil authorized under this paragraph may be  
30 repealed prior to expiration of the period of budget years for  
31 which the increase was approved after an election at which a  
32 majority of the votes cast upon the proposition is in favor of  
33 repealing the increase. The election at which the question of  
34 repeal is offered shall be called and held in the same manner  
35 and under the same conditions as provided in subparagraph (2)

1 for the election on the approval of the increase.

2 Sec. 3. APPLICABILITY. This Act applies to school budget  
3 years beginning on or after July 1, 2019.

4 EXPLANATION

5 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
6 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

7 This bill authorizes the voters of a school district to  
8 approve an increase in a school district's regular program  
9 district cost per pupil, subject to limitations established in  
10 the bill.

11 The board of directors of a school district may, on its  
12 own motion, or shall, upon receipt of a petition signed by  
13 eligible electors equal in number to at least 30 percent of the  
14 number of voters who voted at the last preceding regular school  
15 election, direct the county commissioner of elections to submit  
16 to the registered voters of the school district the question  
17 of whether to increase the school district's regular program  
18 district cost per pupil. The ballot must specify the amount  
19 by which the regular program district cost per pupil is to be  
20 increased and the budget year for which the increase will take  
21 effect. If a majority of the votes cast upon the proposition  
22 is in favor of the proposition, the department of management  
23 is required to increase the school district's regular program  
24 district cost per pupil by the amount approved by the voters  
25 beginning with the budget year specified on the ballot.  
26 However, for an increase to apply to a budget year, the  
27 election approving the increase must occur before the school  
28 district's budget for that budget year is certified under Code  
29 section 24.17. The school district's regular program district  
30 cost per pupil for future budget years is then calculated in  
31 the manner required under current law including any increases  
32 made under the bill.

33 Under the bill, the amount by which a school district's  
34 regular program district cost per pupil may be increased shall  
35 not exceed an amount equal to the difference between the school

1 district's regular program district cost per pupil for the  
2 budget year specified on the ballot and the highest regular  
3 program district cost per pupil among all school districts in  
4 the state for the same budget year.

5 The bill authorizes an increase in a school district's  
6 regular program district cost per pupil to be repealed by  
7 election prior to expiration of the period of budget years for  
8 which the increase was approved. The election at which the  
9 question of repeal is offered shall be called and held in the  
10 same manner and under the same conditions as provided for the  
11 election on the approval of the increase.

12 The bill also specifies that existing Code language related  
13 to adjustments to a school district's regular program district  
14 cost per pupil if certain conditions are met provides for a  
15 different adjustment if certain other conditions are met.

16 The bill applies to school budget years beginning on or after  
17 July 1, 2019.